HAM COLL
HQ
H193
C.3

NEWS
Two New Student Parking Lots
Director of Campus Safety Frank Coots announces two new student lots for parking. **page 5**

OPINION
Charlotte Bennett visits Hamilton
Charlotte Bennet talks spark conversations about sexual misconduct on-campus. **page 8-9**

SPORTS
Women's Soccer
The women's soccer team qualifies for NESCAC semifinals. **page 13**

The Spectator

Thursday, November 4, 2021

Volume LXIII
Number X

Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

A housing squeeze at Hamilton: more students on campus than ever before

by Spencer Royal '22
INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER

Jameson Andrews '24 and Simon Hoke '24 currently live in a new Bundy double, and their room is cramped. In its current layout, when Hoke opens the drawers of his split-in-half, under-the-bed dresser, they collide with his half-desk, which is snuggly wedged between their two beds. When Andrews fully opens the drawers of his dresser, they barely fit within the path of the in-swinging door. Almost certainly, the door would hit him if it opened suddenly while he stands in front of the dresser. Around 60 sophomores had to adjust to new Bundy doubles like these this year, or, as Quinn Brown '24 calls them,"forced doubles."

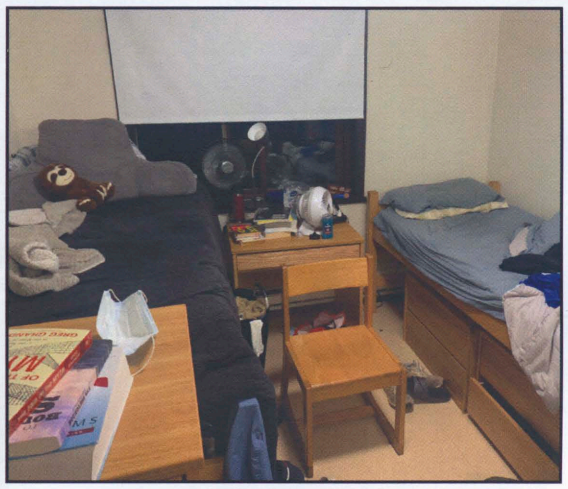


PHOTO COURTESY OF SPENCER ROYAL '22

A picture of one of the cramped Bundy doubles.

How then, did Brown, Andrews, Hoke and nearly 60 others come to be playing Tetris with their dorm room furniture in the first place? The answer: over enrollment, COVID-19 housing requirements and far fewer students studying abroad.

"Hamilton has more students, and more students on campus than it ever has in its history right now," said Travis Hill, Associate Dean of Students. In a typical Fall semester, Hamilton College houses between 1880 and 1890 students on campus. However, in Fall 2021, Hamilton welcomed 1976 students to its physical campus, an increase of about 100 students. 533 students accepted their offers to join Hamilton's Class of 2025, 60 more than admissions' goal of welcoming 475 to 480 new first-years each year. Fewer students studying abroad in Fall 2021 (76 compared to the norm of 120 to 130) also contributes to the overcrowded campus this semester.

The over enrollment, study abroad numbers and COVID-19 requirements necessitated two significant changes to housing on campus. In Bundy, Residential Life placed 60 sophomore students, like Andrews, Hoke and Brown, in double rooms that in years past housed only one student. In some Bundy wings with new doubles, 16 students share two locking bathrooms, each with one shower and one toilet.

In addition to adding new Bundy doubles, Hamilton constructed two temporary buildings, Glenview A and B in Summer 2020. These two new buildings consumed some 60 parking spots on the dark side—exacerbating the scarcity of parking on campus in Fall 2021. The removal of these spots, coupled with the unusual amount of students studying on campus at Hamilton in Fall 2021, resulted in a shortage of non-North Lot parking.

Students expressed their discontent over lack of parking availability in Student Assembly's public comment section and Frank Coots, Director of Campus Safety, engaged with the Student Assembly on the issue. On Oct. 25, Coots announced that additional student parking would be added both at the Old Tennis Courts near the Field House and at the parking lot closest to Babbit Pavillion. In an email to the entire College, Coots added that "convenient student parking will continue to be a challenge and I will persist at minimizing the stress the limited parking causes."

Over Enrollment: 2021-2022

533 new students matriculated at Hamilton in the Fall 2021 semester, exceeding enrollment expectations of 475 to 480 by about 60 students. Simultaneously, lower than normal off-campus study numbers exacerbate the housing squeeze.

Monica Inzer, Vice President for Enrollment Management, told *The Spectator* that this over-enrollment was a result of the fact that "our yield, that's the percent of admits who chose us, went from 34.3% last year to 40.4% this year." She added, "while this is a good problem to have, that so many students want to be at Hamilton, we certainly didn't see that coming."

"This was not intentional" said Inzer. "Our target was 475 to 480 fall first-years and 45 January first-years. In addition to the large fall class, at this point we have 67 Jans joining us next semester. Inzer also said "the data and models we use to predict yield and enrollment are quite reliable. That wasn't the case this year."

When planning housing for the 2021-2022 academic year, Travis Hill stated "because the numbers were so high in the incoming first-year class and the study abroad numbers were so low, we [the Enrollment Management Committee] just knew we were in a spot." So, Travis Hill, Residential Life and Facilities Management met to explore housing options for this semester, including Glenview A and B. While Glenview has remained on campus during the Fall 2021 semester, it was originally constructed to cope with the COVID-19 housing guidelines in 2020-2021.

The Origins of Glenview

Hamilton's newest dormitories, Glenview A and B, stand in the corner of the Root Parking Lot on the dark side of campus. Hamilton constructed these buildings for Fall 2020, and they currently house 72 first-year students. Both buildings will remain on campus during the 2022-2023 academic year, said Tanith Sherman, Assistant Director of Residential Life.

Sherman explained that "Glenview was built as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the effects it had on our community." She elaborated on these effects, namely that many triples and quads without private bathrooms could not be used as such due to COVID-19 "de-densifying" guidelines.

These "de-densifying" guidelines stipulated that, for example, Hamilton could not use quads to house four students unless they had a private bathroom. Consequently, in Dunham residence hall, all quads had to be converted to doubles.

An additional challenge Residential Life faced in 2020-2021 was the negligible amount of students in study abroad programs due to COVID-19. In Spring 2021, 15 students studied abroad, compared to 180 to 200 students in pre-pandemic years, said Carolyn North, Assistant Dean of Off-Campus Study. Given these challenges, "to be sure we had enough beds for all of our students, we made many changes to our housing, in-

PHOTO COURTESY OF SPENCER ROYAL '22

The same Bundy double (left) with little room between the dresser, door and desk.

cluding adding the Glenview buildings," said Sherman.

When Brin Rockett '24 arrived at Glenview in Fall 2020, "it felt like there were a lot of things that they didn't think about when we moved in," she told *The Spectator*. Upon her arrival, all lights in Rockett's room used motion detectors and "if you moved around at all in the night, if you shifted in bed, the lights would just turn on." Rockett and others then realized that "we could tape over the motion sensor so that it wouldn't turn on, but that still meant that after [a couple] minutes the lights would just turn off."

Rockett mentioned additional problems, such as flooding through the air conditioning units, and a period of about five days when the shower steam frequently triggered the fire alarms, causing her to miss Zoom classes.

To resolve these issues, Rockett and her fellow Glenview residents would reach out to their Residential Advisor requesting a work order. Facilities Management usually fixed the problems quickly, said Rockett.

Though the Glenviews provide the needed housing space for students into the 2021-2022 academic year, the solution continues to invoke some bemusement from its residents. Mady Schiro '25, a current resident of Glenview, said "it's pretty far from everything, so that's a bit of a hassle," and that "people see the other dorms and they're nice and they're old and they're beautiful and then they come to Glenview and it's not as nice." She highlighted that two perks are free laundry and air conditioning. As to whether her current housing has impacted her quality of life, she said, "other than the distance, it's not too impactful."

Glenview resident Mya Burns '24 said "I feel like Glenview gets a lot of hate, but we have free laundry and air conditioning…but there are several cons, first of all the location, the second thing is the housing itself, it is temporary housing. It's not a true building on campus."

The Origin of New Bundy Doubles: 2020-2021

Despite the 72 added beds in Glenview A and B, Hamilton added 60 beds to the Bundy Residence Halls last year by placing two occupants into a room that had housed only one student the previous year.

Hill, who sits on the Enrollment Management Committee as a representative for Residential Life, said that compared to the current school year, the Bundy doubles were "used a lot less" during the 2020-2021 school year. Since virtual classes allowed some students to study remotely, the college did not need to make full use of the Bundy doubles.

Bundy was chosen as the place to add a majority of the new doubles during the 2020-21 academic year "because of the size of the rooms, and the bathroom and laundry ratios," explained Sherman. According to Sherman and Hill, Bundy singles are the largest singles on campus.

However, Brown '24 has found living with the bathroom-to-student ratio difficult, explaining, "our whole floor is forced doubles meaning we have 16 people sharing two bathrooms, which means at [peak] hours like before class in the morning it is nearly impossible to get into the bathrooms just to brush your teeth."

Hill added that compared to many other single rooms on campus that Facilities Management and Residential Life considered, "Bundy's rooms are pretty rectangular, which is a big advantage if you're going to take a square footage and try to use it differently."

Finally, Hill noted that Bundy was a residence hall where "we had the ability to do it all in one location" and that because of the sheer volume of needed beds, "it was much simpler to do it [in Bundy]." In summary, "the reason we did the Bundy double solution was because we had already pretty much exhausted everything else that was viable," said Hill.

Student Experiences in Bundy Doubles: 2021-2022

Andrews, who lives in Bundy with his roommate Hoke, explained that "it's been really tight, and both being on [men's soccer] we do not have a lot of room for our equipment, luckily we have the locker room."

Echoing Brown's sentiments, another concern for Andrews was that there are 16 people in the hall and two private bathrooms, each with one toilet and one shower.

Hoke said "I've been able to adjust to the forced double pretty well as this semester has gone on. The room itself is small and without much storage space, but it's manageable." Due to the layout of their room, Hoke's under the bed dressers do not fully open since they collide with a half-desk in between the two beds. The open drawers of the full dresser, at the foot of Andrews' bed, barely fit outside the radius of the opening door. If the door opens while Andrews uses the dresser, the door will collide with him. One closet is available for both Andrews and Hoke to use.

"Our whole floor is forced doubles meaning we have 16 people sharing two bathrooms...the room is simply not big enough for two people" - Quinn Brown '22

However, not all students fully adjusted to the Bundy doubles. Stella O'Brien '24 lived in a Bundy double for only two and a half weeks this year before she and her roommate promptly requested a room change. "Even though my roommate and I are really good friends, it was still really difficult to live together in a space that was designed for one person to live by themselves," O'Brien told *The Spectator*.

For O'Brien, the closure of the Bundy Dining Hall due to staff shortages exacerbated the inconvenience caused by her cramped living situation. While O'Brien's room change request was approved quickly, Residential Life did not accept Hoke and Andrews' request to change rooms. "The room is simply not big enough for two people," said Brown.

In regards to whether students had expressed their discontent with Bundy doubles, Sherman told *The Spectator* that "we have heard from students in the Bundy Buildings who are unhappy with the size of the doubles there. Unfortunately because many students were in…(quads with only two people, etc.), [during the 2020-21 academic year] moving into a very standard double room can be a big adjustment."

Sherman added that "we have done a lot of work to improve the common room space in those buildings to offer more space for students to study and socialize, and have worked with students to help them arrange their rooms as best we can."

Of the Bundy doubles, Hill said that "I get the frustration, I don't begrudge the students and I know that Residential Life and Facilities Management have tried very hard to create strategies for organizing the room and getting the right combination of furniture to make it as manageable as possible" In the face of these challenges, Sherman said that the College "did the best that anyone could have done."

The Future of Glenview and Bundy

Study abroad numbers in Spring 2022 will likely dictate the future of the new Bundy doubles. Inzer speculated that "it seems that that there's pent up demand for off-campus study this next spring semester…so we think that even though we're over by 80 to 100 [students] this Fall, we could be under by 80 in the spring…but we won't know until we see what happens with off-campus study." Sherman echoed this statement. She told *The Spectator* that the Bundy doubles will exist as long as needed, and that the hope is that more students will study abroad and that those new numbers will allow the College to remove some, or all of the converted Bundy doubles. She also confirmed that Glenview would remain on campus through the 2022-23 academic year.

In typical years before COVID-19, 120 to 130 students study abroad in the Fall and 180 to 200 study abroad in the Spring. As of Oct. 27, 2021, 188 students submitted leave of absence forms with the intent to study abroad for Spring 2022. These numbers are subject to change due to the evolving pandemic conditions worldwide, said North.

The higher-than-expected number of students on campus could persist at least until the Class of 2025 graduates, though admissions is working to reduce this number. Inzer explained to *The Spectator* that admitting far fewer students in the Class of 2026, with the goal of immediately reducing on-campus student population to normal levels, is not a solution. Per Inzer's explanation: though admitting a far smaller Class of 2026 would immediately bring Hamilton's student population back to normal, it would cause a cycle of wide swings in class size in the future. For example, after the Class of 2025 graduates, admissions would then need to admit another Class of around 533 students to maintain a level student population, followed by another smaller class and so on. Instead, admissions has reduced the number of accepted transfers in the Fall 2021 from 16 to four and plans to not admit any transfers in Spring 2022. Admissions will also make smaller changes to enrollment targets over time in order to "get some air out of that balloon for the campus," said Inzer.

According to Hill and Inzer, at the moment Hamilton has no plans to build new housing in the near future. Hill detailed that in the past, as Hamilton has converted significant amounts of faculty rental housing into student housing to account for unexpectedly large classes, though a class has never been as large as the Class of 2025. As a result of past housing changes, Hamilton had maximized its housing even before the onset of COVID-19.

Inzer and Sherman both confirmed that the College is currently working on a study of campus housing, which will evaluate how appropriate Hamilton's housing is for students of each class year. Sherman said that "Residential Life as an office would love if the results of that [study] were renovations or a new residence hall." However, Inzer explained that the college is unlikely to expand its size and thus its housing because "if we were to intentionally grow the college, we'd staff up and build more housing, and then there's no real revenue there" and that "we don't want to inadvertently or arbitrarily change the character of the place…students choose us because of our size and the experience comes with that."

Having already maximized housing prior to COVID-19, Hamilton faced a housing squeeze brought on by unexpected challenges. It may take multiple years for housing to return to pre-2020 conditions, but in the meantime, difficulties persist for Hamilton's underclassmen students. As new Bundy double resident, John Sheets '24, said of his housing, "to say it's cramped is an understatement; I feel like a sardine in a can."

Dear Hamilton students,

In the next few days, *The Spectator* will be sending out a survey to the student body to garner insight on students' thoughts on Hamilton's student government. The survey will ask questions about students' thoughts on the effectiveness of student government at Hamilton, relationship with administration and student body and a few other questions. We ask that if you have time over the next week, to please complete the survey. *The Spectator* is planning on publishing a follow-up piece in the coming weeks on the Oct. 28 article regarding numerous resignations from Hamilton's Student Assembly this semester and the results from this survey will be used in the piece. If you have questions after looking at the survey, please direct your questions to spec@hamilton.edu. Thank you for your time!

Best,
Cole and Emma Mae

The Spectator

Editors-in-Chief
Emma Mae Regan
Cole Kuczek

Editor-Emeritus
Claire Goldstein

Managing Editors
Claire Goldstein
Catherine McFarland

Opinion Editors
Stella Karron
Matthew Collins

Sports Editors
Sam Dils
Owen Lewis

Features Editors
Madeline Pittel
Emma Bowman

A&E Editors
Katherine Kim
Lily Rizzoli

News Editors
Emma Swan
Eric Moss

Production Editors
Surya Gowda
Talia Rosen

Advertising Manager
Mukund Jayaram

The Spectator

is looking for social media editors, web editors and individuals who want to distribute the paper to join our staff!

follow us on instagram and twitter!

Visit us online!
spec.hamilton.edu

Celebrating 173 years, we were first published as The Radiator *in 1848.*

The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

The Hamilton College Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. For more information e-mail spec@hamilton.edu. Our offices are located on the second floor of the Sadove Student Center. The deadline for advertisements is Monday the week of publication. For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.*

Hamilton athletes receive new mask policy

by Charlotte Morey '24
STAFF WRITER

On Oct. 22, 2021 Hamilton's COVID-19 Task Force sent out a school-wide email regarding masking on campus. The email stated that all athletes including varsity, club and intramural teams, as well as actors in productions that have received approval from the Task Force and will no longer be required to wear masks while actively practicing, performing or competing. This change was made out of concerns for the safety of athletes and for the benefit of theatre programs. The news was generally widely celebrated across campus.

Jamie King, the varsity men and women's squash coach, discussed how continued masking could have affected his athletes, mentioning the multiple safety challenges that arose in regards to masking. Players' quick movements lead to masks moving around and potentially restricting their vision. Another problem was that masks became wet from sweat during practice and competition.

This limited the players' ability to comfortably breathe while wearing a mask. A specific concern for squash players, which King brought up, was the continuous fogging of necessary protective eyewear or goggles when worn in combination with masks.

With limited alternatives to the standard eyewear required for squash, it was challenging to find one that was safe for play, would not fog and did not interfere with the game. Additionally, the school would have needed to purchase this special equipment with a mask requirement. Other sports such as ice hockey face the same issue of masks coming into conflict with necessary protective equipment like their helmets.

Ultimately the decision to no longer require masks during practice and competition was the COVID-19 Task Force's decision. King mentioned that he, along with other athletic coaches, were allowed to provide the Task Force with information on what other organizations specific to their sport were doing and how schools in New York State with similar demographics were handling masking.

King specifically gave the Task Force information on what the regulations were for U.S. Squash, the Collegiate Squash Association, as well as other small colleges in the area such as the Hobart and William Smith Colleges.

In conversation with fellow coaches, he mentioned other winter sports doing the same, such as basketball looking at what NBA regulations might be or those of other national organizations. This additional information allowed the COVID-19 Task Force to make a well-informed decision regarding masking on campus with the safety of Hamilton athletes being the top priority.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Natalie Beebe '24 and Shelby McVey '22 enter the plate while wearing masks, adhereing to last year's health protocols.

The change in masking protocol not only affects winter sport athletes, but also fall athletes at the end of their season. Melissa Morelli '24, a member of the varsity volleyball team, explained the positive difference she felt when the rules were changed. She remarked on how it feels strange to now no longer wear a mask after being required to do so for so long. This seemed to be a common feeling among student athletes.

One challenge for Morelli's team when wearing masks was communication. She stated, "wearing masks makes communication so much harder" and explained how it is a crucial part of successfully playing volleyball.

Looking back, Morelli said "that it was something I never really thought would be affected by masks until we were playing." She noted that not being able to read her teammates' lips or hear them clearly when the masks muffled sound were the largest challenges. Morelli is looking forward to a hopefully mask free championship weekend ahead.

However, not all students have reaped the benefits of this rule change quite yet. Johnny Oblak '24, a student enrolled in Theatre 100, commented on his experience as an actor still wearing masks indoors. Oblak's class has not yet received approval to perform maskless. Instead, they have been conducting performances and some classes outside at Babbitt Pavillion. Oblak explained how he currently prefers performing outdoors because "actors can communicate thoughts nonverbally with their facial expressions." He said, "it just feels more natural that way as your voice projects better."

Oblak's class will only continue to meet at Babbitt Pavilion if the day's temperature is above 55 degrees. In recent weeks, this has become a challenge as recent classes have been forced to be masked and indoors due to colder temperatures. Oblak hopes that his class can receive approval to do their final performances unmasked inside, as it would be a highlight of the course this semester.

It is important to note that all the current masking protocols in athletics and the Theatre department, as well as for the rest of campus, are still subject to change based on the current state of the pandemic, developing scientific knowledge and infection rates in Oneida County.

Student safety remains the top priority of the College, and the administration will continue to update students on the current state of area-wide infection rates. Hopefully, as infection rates decrease the COVID-19 Task Force can continue to loosen mask regulations on campus in accordance with CDC guidelines.

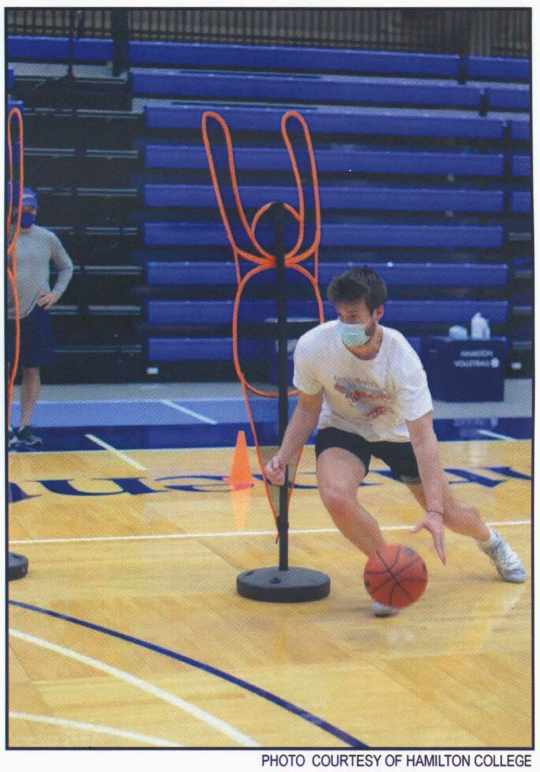


PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

A student basketball player practices dribbling around his opponents while seen wearing a mask.

Two new parking lots opened for students

by Sumiko Newman '24
STAFF WRITER

This week, Director of Campus Safety Frank Coots announced in an email to the student body that the college added two additional areas for student parking. This update comes as students have continuously expressed dissatisfaction over the limited parking spaces on-campus. These added locations are a result of work done between Coots, students, Student Assembly, Bon Appetit, and Facilities Management personnel.

The first added area is the parking lot closest to Babbitt Pavilion on the dark side of campus, which was originally designated solely for Bon Appetit parking. Now, the lot will be divided between Bon Appetit personnel parking and student parking. The second addition is 56 spots in the area formerly named the "Old Tennis Courts," located adjacent to the new field house.

Students felt that there is an insufficient amount of parking spots available in reasonable walking distance from their dorms and classes. The original and largest option provided by the college is the parking lot located in the North and New Lots on Campus Road across from the softball and baseball fields. This option is about a mile from the dark side and a fifteen-minute walk from the Bundy Residence Halls. The additional parking near Babbitt Pavilion will hopefully serve as an alternative to this mile-long trek and improve the experiences of students living on the dark side.

Some students living on dark side continue to feel frustrated with the situation. Katherine Solohub '23 explained that for her, "it's better than it was before. Sometimes there are spots, but we definitely still need more." Ellis Strutton '23 felt even more strongly that there needs to be further changes made: "I don't even bother with the Babbitt Pavilion Lot, even though I live in Babbit. It's not worth driving around looking for spots. I park in Ferg and North lot and do the walk. Or I just don't use my car at all."

In his email, Frank Coots acknowledged that these two new additions fall short of solving the overall issue for students, however, he hopes that this update will make parking on campus less stressful as we transition into winter.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to respect discretion, *The Spectator* and Campus Safety have not disclosed the idenities of the students involved in these reports.

Thurs., Oct. 28

10:20 a.m. Motorist Assist - South Campus
3:55 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident - Johnson Center For Health And Wellness
8:56 p.m. Animal Complaint - Tolles Pavilion
10:17p.m. Trouble Alarm - Glenview-B

Fri., Oct. 29

4:54 a.m. Area Check - List Art Center
7:15 a.m. Complaint - Root Glen
12:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident - Griffin Road Apartments
6:02 p.m. Medical Emergency - Wertimer House
7:09 p.m. Animal Complaint - Skenandoa Residence Hall
10:03 p.m. Area Check - 100 College Hill Road

Sat., Oct. 30

12:11 a.m. Noise Complaint - Babbitt Residence Hall
1:26 a.m. Domestic Complaint - Keehn Residence Hall
9:15 a.m. Fire Alarm - North Campus
1:37 p.m. Fire Alarm - North Campus
3:06 p.m. Medical Emergency - North Residence Hall
10:55 p.m. Medical Emergency - Glenview-A
11:32 p.m. Medical Emergency - Milbank Residence Hall

Sun., Oct. 31

2:30 a.m. Medical Emergency - Kirner-Johnson Building
9:28 a.m. Concern For Welfare - Babbitt Residence Hall
11:15 a.m. Medical Emergency - Babbitt Residence Hall
2:00 p.m. Trouble Alarm - Wellin Museum Of Art
4:42 p.m. Motorist Assist - South Campus
4:50 p.m. Trouble Alarm - Milbank Residence Hall
5:34 p.m. Medical Emergency - North Residence Hall
6:57 p.m. Area Check - Wertimer House
8:19 p.m. Fire Alarm - ABC House
8:36 p.m. Suspicious Activity - College Hill Road
8:51 p.m. Animal Complaint - Skenandoa Residence Hall
10:17 p.m. Animal Complaint - Skenandoa Residence Hall

Mon., Nov. 1

12:19 a.m. Animal Complaint - North Campus
8:45 a.m. Suspicious Activity - Couper Hall
12:52 p.m. Motorist Assist - Root Residence Hall
6:46 p.m. Area Check - Mcintosh Residence Hall
10:54 p.m. Area Check - Athletic Center

Tues., Nov. 2

9:21 a.m. Complaint - Bundy West Residence Hall
11:12 a.m. Complaint - Bundy East Residence Hall
12:13 p.m. Medical Emergency - Dunham Residence Hall
1:23 p.m. Medical Emergency - South Residence Hall
2:49 p.m. Complaint - Griffin Road Apartments
4:15 p.m. Medical Emergency - Kirkland Residence Hall
5:26 p.m. Motorist Assist - Ferguson House
10:04 p.m. Trouble Alarm - Babbitt Residence Hall

Mock Trial competes in UPenn tournament

by Mady Schiro '24
STAFF WRITER

Hamilton's Mock Trial team competed in their first competition this semester over the weekend starting Saturday, Oct. 23 on Zoom. The University of Pennsylvania hosted the invitational, which consisted of four rounds with two rounds occurring each day.

Hamilton's Mock Trial team competes under the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA). Every year, AMTA releases a fictional case packet. This includes a fictional defendant, fictional witnesses, as well as a fictional state and jurisdiction, which all impact the way the members object, speak and write statements. The case packet contains everything available to use as the members compete. The case changes each academic year, with this year's being aggravated arson.

Mock Trial competed as two different teams, Hamilton A and Hamilton B. They went against different opponents every round. In each round, the goal is to win ballots. Every person on the team is scored (given points) in their role. This includes opening/closing statements, direct/cross-examinations and witness testimonies. In this tournament, teams who won the ballot in the first round would go against other teams who won their ballot in the second round and so on. The technical winner of a tournament is considered the team which won the most ballots overall. Hamilton Team A won 3 ballots, while Hamilton Team B won 5.

Elise Wilson '22 commented on the both teams' performance: "This was the best performance I've ever seen Mock Trial give at the first tournament of the year. The first-years in particular were so well-prepared and unfazed, even though it was their first tournament."

Although many upperclassmen experienced Zoom trials last semester, this was the first time for many new members, including for Bella Ocava '25. The special format of an online competition changed the way

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE MOCK TRIAL

the Mock Trial members can act. Ocava explained there are different "conventions," such as asking permission to share one's screen.

For the competition, Hamilton's Mock Trial team booked classrooms in the Kirner-Johnson building for the weekend, providing ample space for attorneys, witnesses and the rest of the Mock Trial team to have their own rooms. This included a "viewing room" which was utilized by all the members not currently participating in the trial. The members were able to watch the trial happen over Zoom together, which afforded the team a chance to comment on the trial as it was happening. Ocava highlights this as one of the key differences between a trial over Zoom versus a trial in-person. "When you're in a real courtroom there's not a lot of verbal communication."

Ocava explained how this first Zoom trial helped her prepare for what's to come in future in-person tournaments: "The Zoom trial allowed us to be a bit more comfortable since we haven't been thrust into a courtroom yet. It gave us time to be with the team and reflect on the trial as it was happening." Brooke Kessler '22, Co-Captain of the Mock Trial team, explained that it is harder to communicate with their counsel tables, but they put in a lot of practice to make it work.

The hard work is not over yet, as another tournament will take place on Nov. 6 and 7, at the University of Rochester. This tournament will be in-person in an actual courtroom, and will be the first time the younger members of Mock Trial compete in an in-person tournament, their first since Mar. 2020. Kessler explained that this year, Mock Trial took nine new members, which is their largest first-year class. The younger members have changed roles for this new tournament to see where their strengths best lie. The team will be hard at work this week in preparation.

Kessler and the team also celebrated the team's increase in ranking, as they are now 89th in the country, 30 places up from last year.

Best of luck to Hamilton's Mock Trial team this weekend, and congratulations on an amazing performance this past tournament. The members look forward to a successful season.

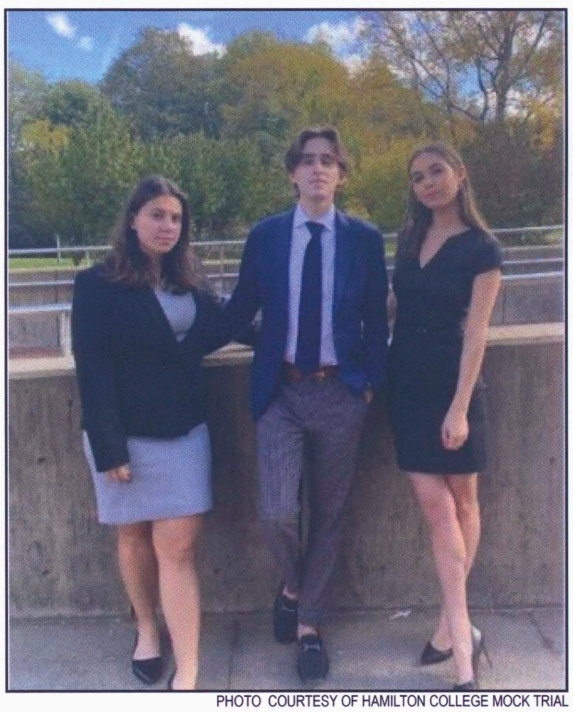


PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE MOCK TRIAL

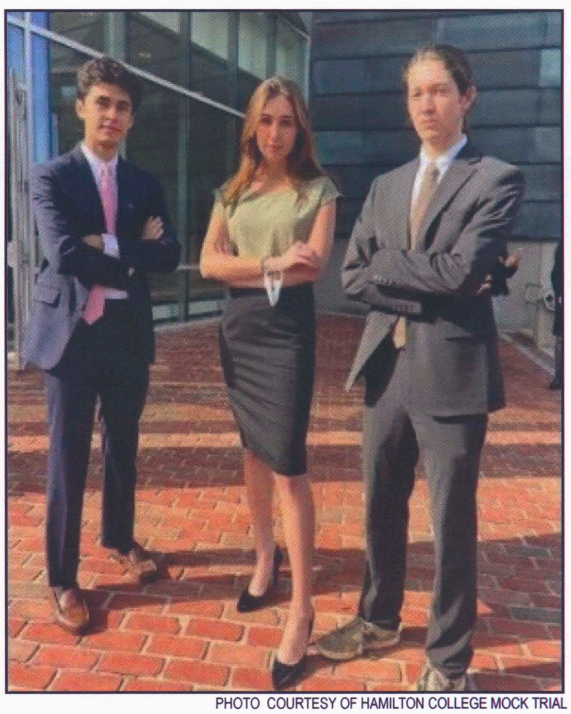


PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE MOCK TRIAL

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE MOCK TRIAL

Hamilton Horoscopes

by Mariam Saied '23
Resident Astrologist

No Nonsense Edition
This week we're gonna get straight to the point. I know a large majority of you guys don't care about all the transit mumbo jumbo so I'll just cut to the chase. No nonsense.

Jan. 20-Feb. 18: Aquarius
February 19-March 20: Pisces
March 21-April 19: Aries
April 20-May 20: Taurus
May 21-June 20: Gemini
June 21-July 22: Cancer
July 23-August 22: Leo
August 23-Sept. 22: Virgo
Sept. 23-Oct. 22: Libra
Oct.23-Nov. 21: Scorpio
Nov. 22-Dec. 21: Sagittarius
Dec. 22-Jan. 19: Capricorn

Aries
Windows of opportunity have closed. Things that seem impossible are still impossible.

Taurus
You're gonna have a good week :) xoxo

Gemini
Shut the [expletive] up.

Cancer
If you're tired, you should try to sleep instead of complaining about being tired.

Leo
A part of you will die this week.

Virgo
Usually you're down bad, but this week you will be up good.

Libra
Clean up your LinkedIn profile.

Scorpio
You have the potential to curate a really good spotify playlist today.

Sagittarius
This week, watch out for someone in your life who does not, against all appearance, have your best interests at heart. Maybe they've been lying to you. Maybe you've never noticed. Open a keen eye to their behavior and understand that your self-worth won't and shouldn't be tied to their approval anymore. It takes heart to cut out a negative factor in your life, I get that. But change doesn't come to those who are scared of it, and I'm telling you because that is what you need right now. But hey, don't listen to me, I'm just the universe manifesting itself into this platform to give you a message.

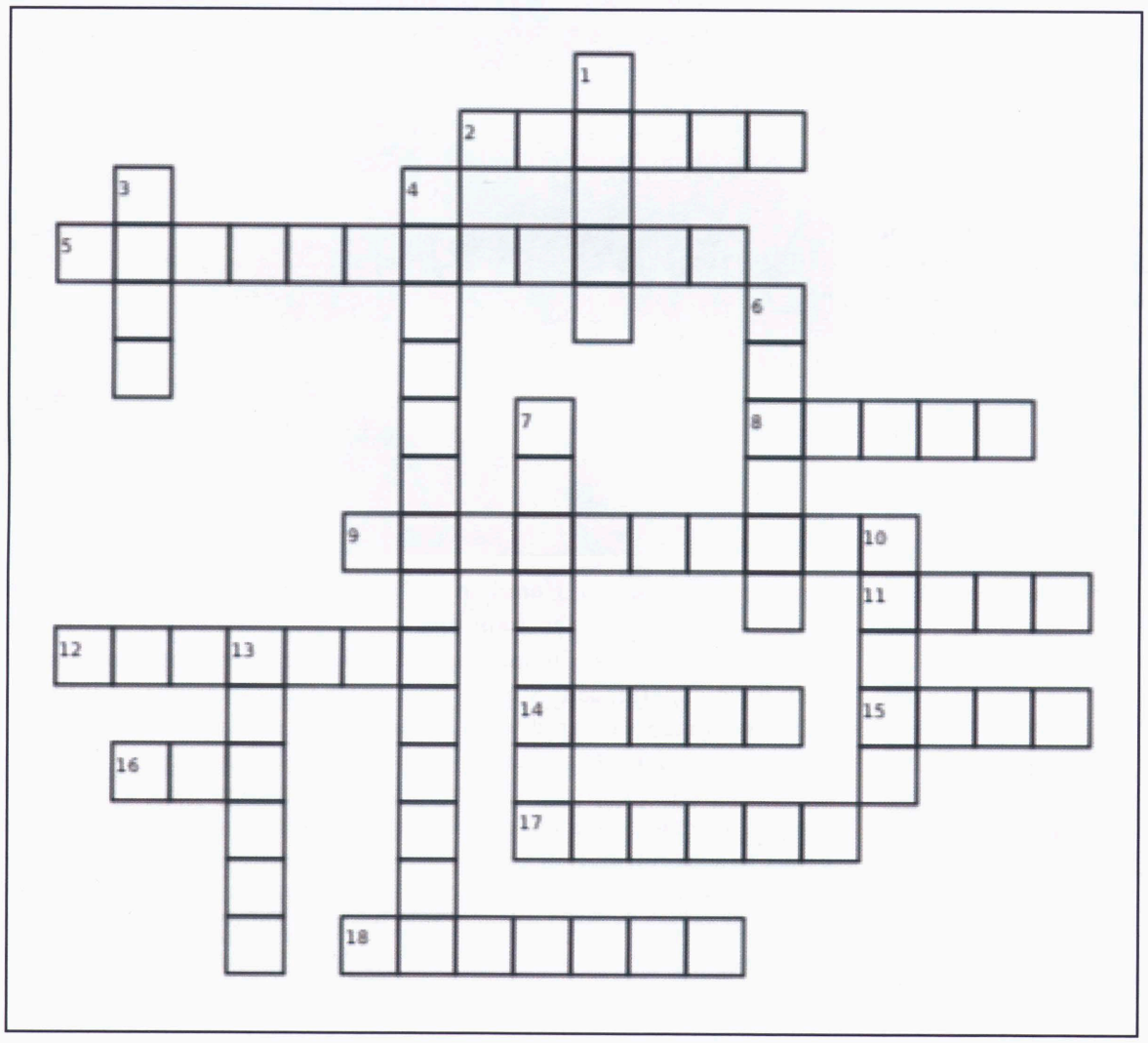
Capricorn
Be a silly goose this week!

Aquarius
Invest in a coloring book and a large pack of crayons. The one with the sharpener.

Pisces
Take a hefty glen walk.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIARIAM SAIED

Hamilton crossword puzzle



Down
1. In fifteen days
3. Going around
4. Opening night of the show
6. Cider Mill
7. *Dune* actor last name
10. New cafe on campus
13. COVID party spot

Across
2. Resident astrologist
5. Hamilton mascot
8. I hate parking at
9. Dining service
11. Hamilton curriculum
12. Not Milbank
14. Queen of Commons
15. Best paper on campus
16. The Little
17. On Tuesdays there is
18. Sweater

Charlotte Bennett speaks at Hamilton

by Caroline Casey '23
STAFF WRITER

PHOTO BY THE NEW YORK TIMES

Photo of Charlotte Bennett, Hamilton College Class of 2017.

On Oct. 21, Hamilton College alumna Charlotte Bennett '17 returned to campus to share her presentation, "The Power of Lived Experience: Storytelling, Community Engagement, and Institutional Change." Bennett received national attention in early 2021 when she became the second woman to accuse her boss, then-governor of New York Andrew Cuomo, of sexual harassment in the work place. However, Bennett's name was already well-respected within the Hamilton community. During her time on the Hill, she drew attention to the glaringly inadequate judicial response to sexual assault and demanded the reform we now all benefit from today. Bennett spoke to the strengths and weaknesses of the #MeToo movement as a whole. She approached the #MeToo movement through the lens of empathy as a means to empower people to share their stories. Bennett explained how it was in fact women telling stories and finding patterns that created the term sexual harassment in the first place. At separate universities, professors and students began interviewing women to understand their often abrupt exit from the workforce; they quickly came to understand that women were made to feel so uncomfortable by male colleagues and bosses that they chose to quit. By drawing attention to these findings on a national scale, these women created and established the term sexual harassment.

Understanding the role university students played in the conception of such well known phraseology resonated with those of us who are currently having similar conversations in our classrooms and are uncovering upsetting patterns in our own experiences as women. Perhaps what was most impactful from Bennett's talk was the Pyramid of Sexual Misconduct that she created and shared. At the bottom of the five part pyramid is Attitude, Beliefs and Culture; Bennet described this as "rape culture, victim-blaming, [and] locker room talk." Next is Discrimination, any act that limits accessibility or respect. In the center of the pyramid is Verbal & Emotional Abuse, such as "gaslighting, catcalling, manipulation, [and] threats." The second to last tier is Degradation & Violation of Autonomy, "stalking, revenge porn, financial abuse, coercion, [and] groping," and the top tier is Explicit Violence, including but not limited to any sexual or physical violence.

When experiencing such varying forms of abuse, the emotions and repercussions one faces is not clear cut or easily articulated. Seeing them projected on the big screen and organized with thoughtful consideration was extremely validating.

Following Bennett's presentation, the meeting was opened up to the audience for questions and comments. With the encouragement of Bennett, the meeting quickly became a democratic group discussion. Students spoke to the support they felt in their Women's and Gender Studies classrooms that provided them with a space to vocalize vulnerabilities otherwise discouraged in academic classes. Faculty expressed their extreme frustration with having their efforts of change blocked once they reached the highest level of administration. The pain and exhaustion for which it is to be a woman both on a college campus and in the world right now was palpable.

I had the honor of being present for this meeting as well as a private event for students currently in Women's and Gender Studies classes. While I left both meetings with innumerable thoughts, below are my two biggest takeaways and perhaps critiques of Bennett's visit to campus.

Currently on the Hamilton campus, the most effective system of sexual misconduct prevention (and, I would argue, punishment) is the whisper network. Failed by bureaucratic nature and dedication to the presumption of innocence in Title IX hearings, women (or any self-identifying victim of sexual misconduct) protect each other by quietly warning others of their negative experiences with certain individuals on campus. I fear that the success and yet limitations of this method have left women on campus at a detrimental standstill.

As a women at Hamilton, I would argue that whisper networks are successful. In such a small community, women at Hamilton College

PHOTO BY HAMILTON COLLEGE

Bennett's alma mater Hamilton College, where many have expressed dissatisfaction with the handling of sexual misconduct measures.

can quickly let those in and beyond their social network know what they have experienced. Stories from weekend gatherings or intimate relationships spread rapidly and within days of occurrence. In doing so, women do not have to retraumatize themselves by speaking of a humiliating experience in front of their assaulter, "unbiased" peers, or elected faculty. Women do not have to define their identity on campus by their desire to seek retribution against those who violated their safety. Women do not make themselves vulnerable to the system letting them down.

It seems to me, however, that whisper networks are almost too effective. Women are able to just barely keep themselves safe, but not in a manner that truly provides them with systematic change. I can tell

Continued on Page 9

the women next to me at a party that I have heard that the man who keeps eyeing her from across the room tends to ignore one's request that he wears a condom; she may even take my advice and refuse to go home with him. In a sense, I was successful because the knowledge I whispered to her over the music of the loudspeaker allowed her to protect her bodily autonomy.

But that whisper did not start a larger discussion about consent. It did not call out larger trends of sexual misconduct that occur in every dorm on this campus. I will have to keep whispering every weekend in order to keep my peers out of harm's way.

Whisper networks keep women safe but in a way that never changes the systems that are already regularly letting them down. The strength found amongst women can be powerful, but it is not powerful enough to bring about the impenetrable safety that they require.

These questions of sexual misconduct on campus and the ever-failing system that is meant to keep people safe drove much of the later conversation with Bennett. With every student raising their hand and voicing frustration with sexual misconduct on campus, Bennett recognized their pain and then encouraged them to do research: collect stories, cultivate data, find patterns and then make demands of the administration that specifically solve the issues research illustrates. Professors were quick to encourage students with the promise of funding. They suggested that there are seemingly endless resources for students to do just the work that Bennett suggested would help us.

I agree that it is only with pointed demands that are supported by scientifically collected data that we will see changes in the way that sexual misconduct is handled on campus. It is going to take years for the stories we tell today to inspire systematic safety measures.

Nonetheless, being encouraged to take an academic approach to the sexual violence I see and hear about every weekend frustrated me.

There is danger now. The safety of my friends and peers is vulnerable right now. Collecting data over the next few months does not mean that the party I go to this weekend will not be fraught with sexual misconduct and male indifference. It does not console the woman who was groped in a dark-side suite or the women whose partner ignored her demands to slow down or the girl who received threatening texts when she decided she no longer wanted to continue a relationship. It does not reassure me that when I invite underclassman girls to a gathering, that their seeming social vulnerability will not be targeted by anyone else who shows up to the party.

Sexual misconduct on campuses needs more immediate solutions. We are tired of having to protect ourselves, support ourselves and help each other heal from actions that will go unpunished. Collecting data today would hopefully protect Hamilton students in the future, but does that mean that misconduct that happens in the years until then must go on unanswered?

Bennett's presence on campus encouraged an important conversation about sexual misconduct on and beyond college campuses. Her strength, articulation and courage reminded many of us why we must continue to educate ourselves on challenging topics and persevere through situations that dehumanize us.

However, the seemingly unsolvable nature of the problems discussed with Bennett weighed heavily upon us as we exited the safety of her presentation and re-entered our everyday lives on campus.

Is COP 26 too little, too late?

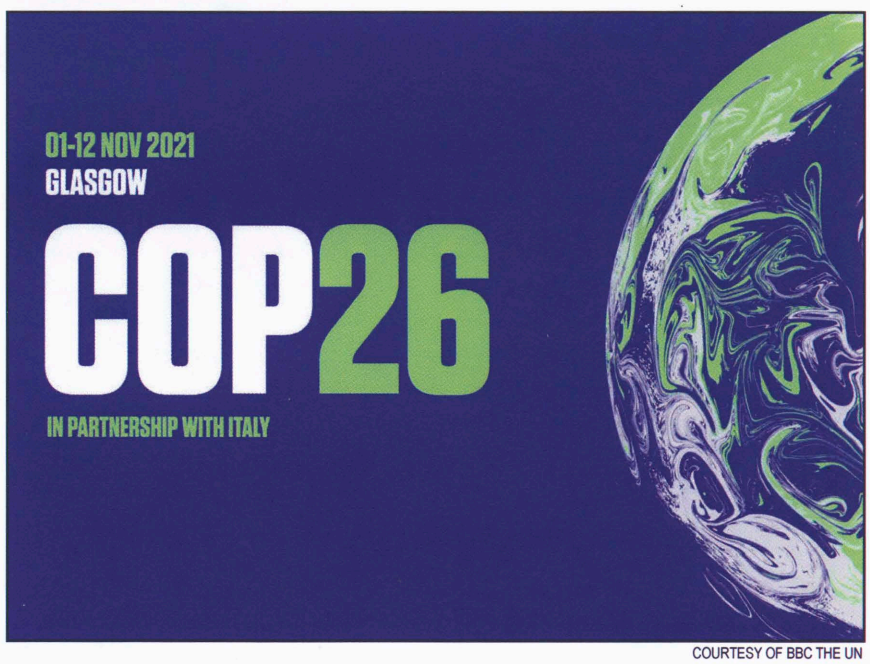
by Stella Karron '23
OPINION EDITOR

Oct. 31 marked the first day of the 13-day-long conference commonly known as COP26. Meeting once a year, nations from across the world come together to discuss global climate issues, although due to COVID, this conference has not occurred since 2019. These "conference[s] of the parties," or COPs, are settings for world leaders to partake in negotiations on what climate actions to which they will collectively commit.

This year, 196 countries are attending. It is important to note that while these meetings occur every year, work must be done after them, as opposed to merely performative meetings used to raise world leaders' approval ratings. The next decade leading up to 2030, is the most crucial time for climate prevention strategies to become implemented. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change found that to prevent the worst damage, we must reduce emissions and bring the atmospheric temperature down to 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2030—if we do not, there is very little hope of reversing the damage of climate change. This year more than ever, the negotiations coming out of COP 26 will tell us if it is possible to curb the climate crisis.

The last major climate agreement was in 2015, where the Paris Agreement was drafted. Today, this agreement is the most aggressive to date, as it set long-term goals for climate; the largest of these goals is to keep the atmospheric temperature below two degrees Celsius and commit to a goal of 1.5 degrees Celsius. Countries promised to take measures such as cut back on fossil fuels, invest in renewable energy sources and provide assistance to developing countries—but they did truly not act. This is not to say that these steps were not taken at all, but they were not implemented to the extent that the countries promised and that they needed to adhere to meet their goals for reducing global temperatures.

This year's COP has world leaders willing to take large pledges. Over 100 countries have agreed to halt deforestation in the next decade, South American countries proposed to create a marine highway for endangered species and many countries have promised to curb emissions of methane. The European Union, as well as other major contributing countries including the U.S., pledged to reach net-zero emissions by 2050. However, as we saw with the Paris Agreement, these ideas need to become implemented now. According to the International Energy Agency, for counties to achieve net-zero by 2050, electric cars would need to make up more than half of new car sales, countries would need to shut down all fossil fuel plants and air travel would need to be vastly reduced. These examples are not small undertakings, they require mass amounts of infrastructure and money, as well as aggressive policy-making. Policies made at COP 26 also need to be implemented faster. The pact on deforestation still allows for another decade of foresting and it is not even binding. In addition, despite 150 countries pledging to reduce methane emissions, this pledge is only to reduce these by 30% and large producers such as China and India have not signed it at all. These policies are important and set us on the right track, but we need short-term regulations to jumpstart these broad ideas.



COURTESY OF BBC THE UN

The poster for COP 26, which is hosted in Glasgow.

F.I.L.M. Presents: John Carpenter's *Halloween*

by Katherine Kim '22
A&E EDITOR

Content Warning: Article contains descriptions of murder and physical violence.

On a rainy Oct. 31 at 2:00 p.m., Hamilton College's F.I.L.M. series (curated by Professor Scott MacDonald, Director of Cinema and Media Studies) presented John Carpenter's *Halloween* in the Bradford Auditorium. The classic slasher film drew in a large crowd of both faculty and students, all eager to see it on the spooky holiday of the same name.

There was little introduction needed for this film; pop culture and cinema history alike had given the audience all the context they needed for this film. Aware of this, Professor MacDonald only commented that Carpenter also composed the score for *Halloween* before screening the actual film, but this was no idle remark. The chilling synth cues and dissonant piano themes throughout the film create a haunting atmosphere that encourages the audience to be vigilant. This score only consists of frightening music, implying that danger lurks everywhere in *Halloween's* world.

While a looming sense of danger may seem like a classic horror movie trope, it grows more ominous when one considers the setting of *Halloween*. Serial killer Michael Myers stalks protagonist Laurie Strode and her friends throughout *Halloween* in the tiny town of Haddonsfield, with motivations to murder them all. Such gory and frightening actions starkly contrast the mundane atmosphere of Haddonfield, an environment specifically constructed to feel like an area of indefinite normalcy and safety, as it becomes infiltrated by a homicidal stranger and tainted with violence. *Halloween* thus makes its audience realize that danger can pounce upon people in any place and time, even in environments designed to make people feel safe. This perfectly reflected a popular sentiment of the film's era: the Seventies were a decade reeling in the wake of many serial killers taking countless victims, regardless of who they were and where they lived. From the 1969 stabbing of Sharon Tate in her own home to the 1974 disappearance of Susan Elaine Rancourt from her college, no one felt safe anywhere.

PHOTO BY DIGITAL SPY

Furthermore, when one analyzes the victims of Mysers, *Halloween* feels even more chilling. The people he targets and murders are all innocent teenagers behaving in normal adolecent ways, such as going to school dances, rebelling against their parents and having sex with their schoolmates. The teens in this film are killed simply for being teens, as if Myers is punishing them for an adolescence stage that he is disgusted by, yet never possessed, having spent most of his childhood in Smith's Grove Sanitarium—a psychiatric hospital he eventually escapes.

Despite such frightening atmospheres in *Halloween*, Laurie Strode is no shrinking violet when danger comes on her doorstep—quite literally, as Myers tries to kill her in the various houses she takes shelter in. She is terrified that a silent and relentless monster is after her, but she does not let her fear paralyze her. In fact, Strode actively fights back against Myers in several iconic scenes. After Myers has murdered Strode's friends and seeks to kill Strode herself, she is visibly frightened, but does not hesitate to incaptiate him with a sharp knitting needle that she was using to pass the time in a previous scene. In a later scene, when Myers begins destroying a closet that Strode hides in for safety, Strode instantly creates a weapon to defend herself by straightening out the wire of a clothes hanger and stabbing him in the eye with it. Suffice to say, it is thrilling to see a horror protagonist be vulnerable, yet smart and brave, in these moments of high tension and crisis.

From settings to character, *Halloween* is full of elements that make it a timeless horror classic that people from any generation can enjoy, and the audience at this particular F.I.L.M. screening proved it. The age range for this audience varied greatly, from older faculty members who had previously watched *Halloween* to younger college students who had never seen it until that afternoon. However, regardless of age, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves during the screening by flinching during the musical jump scares and muttering their support for Strode to survive, making it a perfect screening to celebrate Halloween at Hamilton College.

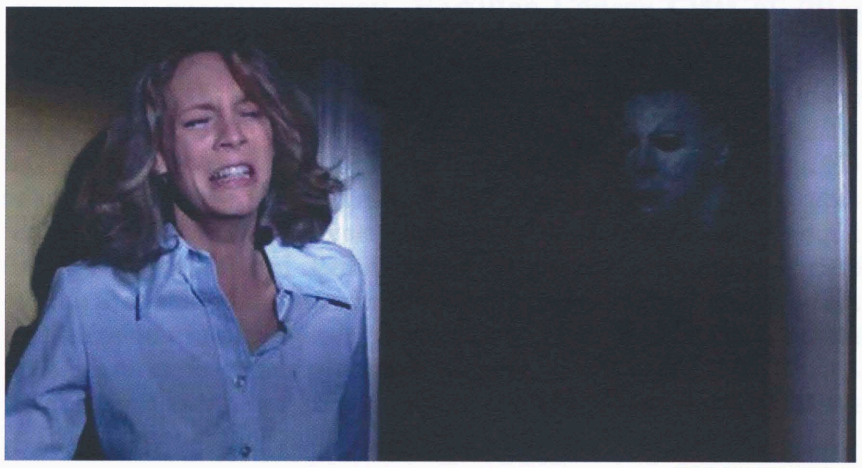


PHOTO BY NEW YORK TIMES

A frightened Laurie is chased by the deadly Michael Myers.

PHOTO BY MENTAL FLOSS

A chilling and iconic scene: Michael discovers Laurie in the closet.

Review: Denis Villeneuve's *Dune* (2021)

by Nick Cackett '24
STAFF WRITER

This year, critically acclaimed director Denis Villeneuve did what he does best: taking on an ambitious project with an already-existing franchise. At the risk of making legions of fans angry if done wrong, he delivered a unique and modern classic.

Villenueve's *Dune* is a visually stunning two-and-a-half-hour science fiction epic that attempts to adapt Frank Herbert's novel of the same name, with a talented ensemble cast that consists of Timothée Chalamet, Zendaya, Oscar Isaac, Javier Bardem and Jason Momoa—all of whom successfully bring their characters to life through their strong acting performances.

Villeneuve does a great job at simultaneously making the film accessible to viewers unfamiliar with the original novel while keeping it faithful to the source material's plot, which is no easy task. Though the movie seems to be more preoccupied with laying the groundwork for a future sequel than advancing the plot at times, it is an extremely enjoyable stand-alone viewing in its own right. It will get you invested in a new universe that you will not mind returning to.

The movie is set thousands of years in the future within a feudalistic universe where various noble families exist under an emperor and divide control of different planets amongst themselves. Timothée Chalamet plays Paul Atreides, the son and heir to Duke Leto from House Atreides, who is played by Oscar Isaac.

The noble family is tasked with taking charge of Arrakis, a planet filled with deserts, giant worms, valuable spices and the mysterious Fremen people. Arrakis was previously under the control of the brutal House Harkonnen, a major rival of House Atreides and a crucial antagonist in the film. However, the film reveals that these dynamics are not as simple as they appear, and throws many challenges at the Atreides family throughout the story. Guiding young Paul are his father's trusted advisers Duncan Idaho (Jason Momoa) and Gurney Halleck (Josh Brolin), as well as his mother Lady Jessica (Rebecca Ferguson), who are all willing to help Paul explore his special abilities and reach his full potential as the future ruler.

The narrative is mostly told through the perspective of Paul as he encounters a host of characters in his journey across Arrakis, including Chani (Zendaya) and Stilgar (Javier Bardem), and slowly uncovers new truths about this strange world.

Of course, like any film, there are some cinematic choices that might be contested amongst audience members. The film's pace can get a bit slow at times, and on occasion, there are sudden bursts of intense action that propel the plot forward without warning.

The film also relies heavily on exposition in an attempt to make the denser aspects of *Dune* easier to understand. However, while the pacing of the film might not be for everyone, *Dune* still provides an extremely admirable attempt to keep its audience engaged with its complex narrative.

Villeneuve achieves this engagement by providing plenty of moments of introspective dialogue that instills atmospheres of wonder and mystery, along with many exciting and visually stunning action scenes. The film has the best of both worlds without sacrificing one for the other.

Yet *Dune's* greatest strength does not necessarily lie in its story or characters, but rather its gorgeous cinematography and accompanying score, the latter composed by the great Hans Zimmer. Both grandly construct the world of *Dune* through various combinations of visuals and sounds that advance the story and captivate audiences. Zimmer's score is both hypnotizing and overwhelming, conveying to audiences that they should feel awestruck and intimidated by what Arrakis holds in store for them.

As for cinematography, much like what he did with his previous films *Blade Runner 2049* and *Arrival*, Villeneuve perfectly captures the film's moods by shooting the strange environments surrounding his characters.

Shots of the vast Arrakis deserts and its various inhabitants inspire senses of wonder, yet simultaneously create an increasingly ominous atmosphere throughout the movie, indicating that in these vast landscapes, danger lies everywhere for the characters. The cinematography thus gives the audience the sheer grandeur of both *Dune's* plot and universe, while remaining focused on Paul's journey and how he sees the world around him.

Overall, *Dune* is an ambitious and incredible epic that is both appealing to fans of the novel and newcomers to the franchise. It is a must-watch movie that will certainly leave you craving for more sci-fi adventures.

Dune is currently in theatres everywhere.

PHOTO BY WARNER BROTHERS

(from left to right) Actors Zendaya, Josh Brolin, Rebecca Ferguson, Timothée Chalamet, Javier Bardem, Jason Momoa, Sharon Duncan-Brewster and Oscar Isaac all star in Denis Villenueve's *Dune* (2021).

LITS RESEARCH & DESIGN DESK

Meet our current team!

Questions? Contact **askus@hamilton.edu.**

Come visit us in Burke Library for Digital Media help!

Need help with an assignment that uses digital media? A poster design, podcast, video editing, or something similar?

Digital Media Tutors are here to help! We offer support for the Adobe Suite, web design, 3D printing, and more.

RESEARCH - DESIGN - COLLABORATE - CREATE

Have a new vision for *The Spectator*'s social media strategy? Interested in web site development, management and design?

***The Spectator* is looking for social media and web editors to join our staff!**

If interested, please email spec@hamilton.edu.

Women's Soccer advances to NESCAC Semifinals

by Simon Hoke '24
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR

Women's soccer continued their impressive run in their NESCAC quarterfinal match on Saturday with a gritty win over the sixth-seeded Tufts University Jumbos. With the victory, the Continentals improve to an overall record of 13-1-2, while maintaining their unbeaten season at home. Hamilton will move on to the NESCAC semifinal, where they will compete against the Wesleyan Cardinals.

The Continentals fully deserved their 1-0 win over Tufts, but it did not come easily. Olivia Zubarik '25 scored the decisive goal in the 47th minute after a low driven cross from Hyla Mosher '23 put her in behind the Jumbos' backline. Following a tightly contested first half in which chances to score were few and far between for both teams, the goal changed the dynamic of play. Hamilton controlled the game for the remainder of the second half, bossing possession and managing the clock.

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE

Olivia Zubarik '25 (right) celebrates the only goal of the game.

Although Zubarik provided the winning goal, she was also sure to credit a collective effort by the team for the win. "The energy within the team, especially throughout the second half, really elevated the intensity of play and contributed to scoring opportunities," she said. There was a noticeable spark in the second half performance which showed that the team was unsatisfied with the first, and Zubarik capitalized on it.

Continentals' goalkeeper Caity Smith '23 made a major impact on the game with seven saves, thus keeping Hamilton in the game at times in the first half. Rylie Mutton '23 and Olivia Morrow '24 also had standout performances in midfield.

Hamilton heads into their Nov. 6 semifinal matchup ranked No. 17 in the nation. This will be Women's Soccer's second semifinal appearance since they became a part of the NESCAC in 2011. Their opponents, the Wesleyan Cardinals, edged the seventh-seeded Bowdoin Polar Bears in their quarterfinal matchup on Saturday. Despite the tight 2-1 scoreline, Wesleyan dominated the game, with 18 efforts on goal to Bowdoin's six.

Hamilton is ready for the biggest match of the season, and they know that they have the ability to win it. "I think that our expectations going into this game are no different to how we've approached other games," said Zubarik. "Bringing intensity, continuing to work hard and having the mindset that we have the capability to compete against any team are important."

The Continentals' only loss during the regular season was by the Cardinals in an away game on Oct. 23, which resulted in a 3-0 defeat. Hamilton will be looking to correct their mistakes from the loss and come out firing in the rematch.

Both NESCAC women's soccer semifinal games will take place in Amherst on Saturday, with the championship game on Sunday at the same location. If Hamilton wins, they will take on the winner of first seed Amherst and fourth seed Middlebury for the NESCAC championship title.

Men's College Basketball 2021-22 Review

by Sam Dils '22
SPORTS EDITOR

The return of college basketball is right around the corner, as Division I programs tip off the season this coming Tuesday, Nov. 9. With over 350 teams and high amount of roster turnover due to the transfer portal and early entrants into the NBA Draft, the college basketball landscape can often be hard to stay on top of. Here is Sport Editor Sam Dils '22's guide to what is shaping up to be another memorable season that will span from now until March Madness.

Top-three reasons to be excited about this season

1. Talent like never before

There exists a slight misconception among casual viewers that the "one-and-done" approach of players spending only their freshman season in college before jumping ship to the NBA Draft has diminished the overall talent pool in the college game. This is certainly true in some regard: sadly, A-list superstars Ja Morant and Zion Williamson have moved on to greener pastures, even though they are still young enough to be college students. Additionally, some top recruits have foregone college basketball entirely to join the G-League or play overseas as 17 or 18-year-olds.

With all of that said, the talent in college this year will be off the charts. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NCAA granted participants an extra year of eligibility, meaning that some fifth-year seniors (like Villanova's Collin Gillespie and Jermaine Samuels) are coming back. Elite incoming talent such as the freshman duo of Emoni Bates and Jalen Duren reclassified from the 2022 high school class to play for Coach Penny Hardaway at University of Memphis. With a much-hyped incoming freshman class that oozes talent, featuring Gonzaga's Chet Holmgren and Duke's Paolo Banchero (both likely top-3 picks in next year's draft), the player pool is arguably the strongest of the decade.

Continued on Page 14

Continued from Page 13

2. Strong, recognizable returners

For those who tuned into March Madness last year, many of the big names will be back on center stage this season. Who could forget UCLA's Final Four run as a #11 seed in the tournament? They return with one of the nation's best scorer's in Johnny Juzang, as well as all of their other starters. Gonzaga fell one game short of an undefeated season last year, but are fully loaded once again with junior forward Drew Timme, who continues to rock his iconic mustache and headband combination. Fellow All-Americans back on the hardcourt are two dominant Big Ten centers in Illinois's Kofi Cockburn and Michigan's Hunter Dickinson. Both Michigan and Illinois earned #1 seeds in last year's tournament and hope to be back in that position this Mar. 2022.

3. A wide-open battle for the national championship

Some years, the title race is over before the season even starts. Last season, Gonzaga and Baylor were ranked first and second in the preseason Associated Press (AP) poll and went on to meet in the national championship. This year, the title conversation is much more open, as each of this year's preseason top-20 have a legitimate reason to believe their team can go all the way. Gonzaga is back at #1 in the rankings, followed by UCLA, Kansas, Villanova and Texas to round out the top five. Duke and Kentucky should bounce back in a big way following disappointing 2020-21 seasons. Kentucky has imported insane talent through the transfer portal with center Oscar Tshiebwe, point guard Sahvir Wheeler and wing Kellan Grady. Duke has yet another top recruiting class led by three five-stars in Paolo Banchero, AJ Griffin and Trevor Keels. Teams like Michigan and Purdue are each returning with incredible talent and look to build off strong seasons in 2020-21. The AP's top 25 is as deep as ever.

The Title Favorites and Prediction

Gonzaga Bulldogs

Coming into the season as the defending national runners-up, the Bulldogs have to be in the title conversation. Coach Mark Few has led the most consistent program over the last decade, with six consecutive appearances in the Sweet Sixteen, with two Final Four berths in the past five years. Gonzaga's grueling non-conference schedule will show us what they are made of right out of the gate.

The duo of Drew Timme and Chet Holmgren will lead the charge. Timme is a preseason First Team All-American and Holmgren is the top prospect in the 2021 class, with a praying mantis-esque frame at 7'0" with a 7'6" wingspan. With these two, alongside returning senior point guard Andrew Nembhard and fellow freshman phenomenom Hunter Sallis, Coach Few has plenty of talent to earn yet another 1-seed and make another deep tournament run.

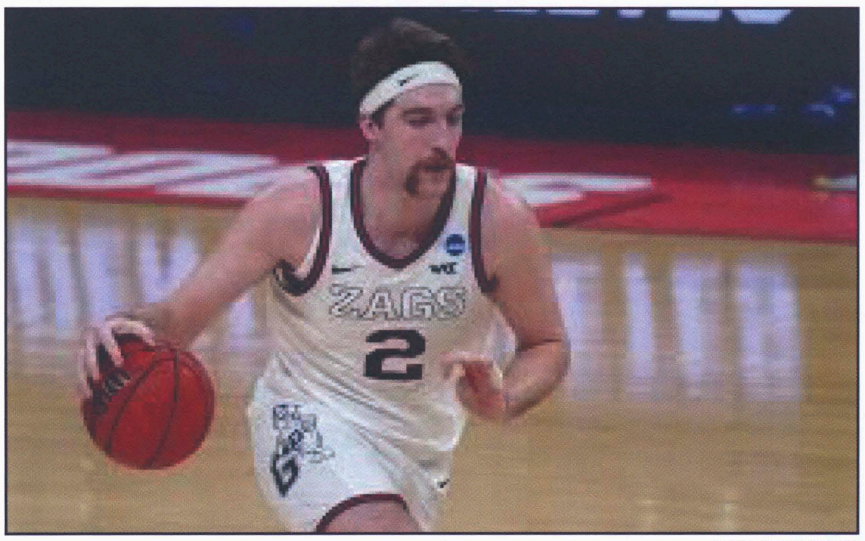


PHOTO BY SKY SPORTS

Forward and First-Team All American player Drew Timme hopes to lead Gonzaga deep in the NCAA Tournament.

Kansas Jayhawks

As another one of the most consistent programs over the past 20 years, Kansas is returningfour of its five starters from a team that earned a 3-seed in the NCAA Tournament last season. Senior center David McCormack blossomed over the second half of last season. Paired up with sophomore Jalen Wilson, the Jayhawks have one of the best frontcourts in the country. The X-factor is fifth-year Arizona State transfer Remy Martin, a pure scorer who has averaged over 19 points per game each of the last two seasons in Tempe. With much better talent around him, can he help lead Kansas to its first title since 2008?

Purdue Boilermakers

In a loaded Big Ten Conference, Purdue will undoubtedly be the most fun team to follow. Sophomore Jaden Ivey is primed for a breakout year after averaging 20 points per game over Purdue's final four games last season. The rangy guard already has NBA executives intrigued. With returning veteran guards in seniors Eric Hunter and Sasha Stefanovic, and the nation's best interior with Trevion Williams and 7'4" sophomore Zach Edey, the Boilermakers will be as athletic, physical and talented as any team in the nation. After a heart-crushing upset loss to North Texas in the first round of March Madness last year, expect this group to be motivated and hungry for a title.

Sleeper Pick: Auburn Tigers

Only ranked at #22 in the opening AP Poll, I expect Auburn to exceed expectations this season. My two reasons are Walker Kessler and Jabari Smith. Kessler is a 7'1" sophomore transfer from North Carolina who is primed to break out with more playing time, and Smith is a top-five incoming freshman who might average a double-double. Junior wing Allen Flanigan is a returning star hiding in plain sight —he averaged 14.3 points and 5.5 rebounds—who will look to lead the improved crop of talent to a potential Final Four berth, a feat that Coach Bruce Pearl and the Tigers pulled off not long ago back in 2019.

Official Championship Prediction: Texas Longhorns

The moment you have all been waiting for: my prediction for 2021-22 National Champion belongs to the Texas Longhorns. Texas has been a hotbed of top-tier talent over the past few seasons, but it has not translated to tournament success. The solution? Hiring one of the best coaches in the country in Chris Beard to replace an unsuccessful and slightly overrated Shaka Smart. Beard has a proven track record, leading a Texas Tech squad that lacked title-worthy talent on paper within seconds of a national title in 2019. Beard now has the most prestigious job in the state and oodles of talent.

The Longhorns probably have the deepest and most talented roster in the country. Returners Andrew Jones and Country Ramey each scored over 12 points per game for a #3 seed Texas team that shockingly dropped its opening round game to Abilene Christian in 2021. The returners will be bolstered by the nation's best transfer class, which includes legitimate stars in Minnesota transfer Marcus Carr and UMass transfer Tre Mitchell, who average a whopping 19.4 and 18.8 points at their respective schools. Add in another batch of double-digit scorers and above average rebounders and defenders in Vanderbilt's Dylan Disu, Creighton's Christian Bishop and Utah's Timmy Allen, and the Longhorns look like a scary, deep team. With one of the nation's best coaches and best depths of talent, I am picking Texas to go all the way. With so many transfers, the regular season will not be perfect, but if the pieces can mesh by Mar. 2022, they have as legitimate a claim as any other team nationwide.